

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached 13 sheets of drawings include Figs. 1-10. The drawings have merely been formalized.

The attached sheets replace the original 13 sheets which included Figs. 1-10.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of the Application

Applicants note with appreciation that reconstruction of this application has been completed. *See* Office Action, Page 2, Note 1. Applicants have reviewed the electronic application on PAIR and found no missing papers. *See id.*

Applicants further note with appreciation that the Examiner has considered Applicants' arguments with respect to the claims in the appeal brief filed February 3, 2004 and found them to be persuasive. *See* Office Action, Page 2, Note 2. Applicants therefore also note with appreciation that all rejections of the previous Office Action in this case have been withdrawn and the appeal filed February 3, 2004 is moot. *See id.*

Applicants further note with appreciation that, as a response to the petition filed February 3, 2004, claims previously withdrawn as a result of a restriction requirement mailed May 30, 2003 are hereby rejoined and that the petition filed February 3, 2004 is moot. *See* Office Action, Pages 2-3, Note 3.

Prior to the Office Action, claims 1-18 were withdrawn from consideration, and claims 19-22 were pending. Claims 1-18 have been rejoined by the Office Action. *Id.* Claims 1-22 are allowed by the Office Action. *See* Office Action, Page 3, Note 4. Prosecution on the merits is now closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*. *See* Office Action, Page 4.

The Office Action states that the application is in condition for allowance (*See* Office Action, Page 3, Note 5), except for the following formal matters:

- a) A complete claim set is required. *See* Office Action, Page 3, Note 5.a.
- b) New corrected formal drawings are required as the drawings filed April 23, 1999 are objected to. *See* Office Action, Page 3-4, Note 5.b.
- c) The disclosure describes applications not fully identified. *See* Office Action, Page 3-4, Note 5.c.

Amendments

The specification is amended to insert related application information previously missing from the specification. No new matter is added by these amendments. Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to the specification is now moot. *See* Office Action, Page 3-4, Note 5.c.

The drawings have merely been formalized in the attached replacement sheets. No new matter is added by these replacement drawings. Applicants respectfully submit that the objections to the drawings are now moot. *See* Office Action, Page 3-4, Note 5.b.

Remarks

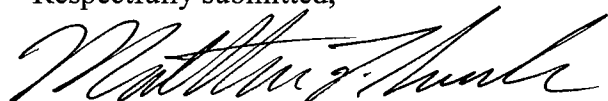
A complete claim set has been provided for allowance purposes per the request in the Office Action. *See* Office Action, Page 3, Note 5.a.

CONCLUSION

For at least all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application, as well as the entire Application itself, are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew T. Sarles
Reg. No. 58,696

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 303-571-4000
Fax: 415-576-0300
Attachments
MTS:cmb 61100408 v1